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such a mass of useful and thoroughly reliable information, and when we consider the painstaking care and discrimination with which it has been done, we cannot sufficiently thank the authors, Professor Bessey, to whom the inception of the work was due, and the several workers who are given credit in the preface. Their work is undoubtedly destined to exert a far-reaching influence and act as a stimulus everywhere. Is it too much to hope that before long every state and even much lesser divisions may be as well explored botanically as Nebraska?

COLTON RUSSELL.

**The Cyclopaedia of American Horticulture.**<sup>1</sup>—The third volume of this important work, the earlier volumes of which were noticed in the *Naturalist* for April and September, 1900, sustains the high character with which the Cyclopaedia began,—as, indeed, was to be expected, since the work as a whole was planned and the preparation of the later volumes well in hand before the appearance of the first volume. Leaving a fuller notice of the entire work until the concluding volume shall have been received, which will scarcely be later than autumn, it may be said now that among the subjects of special interest in the present volume are the revisions of *Narcissus*, *Nymphæa*, *Pæonia*, *Papaver*, and *Pelargonium*, representatives of which are commonly cultivated in our flower gardens in the open air; *Nepenthes*, *Odontoglossum*, *Oncidium*, *Oxalis*, and *Primula*, treated as house plants; the genera *Opuntia*, *Picea*, *Pinus*, *Populus*, *Prunus*, *Pyrus*, and *Quercus*, of botanical interest; the Orange, Peach, Pear, and Plum, of further interest to the fruit-grower; Orchids and Palms, of comprehensive gardening contents; and instructive articles on the physiology of plants, and plant breeding.

T.

**The Flora of Cheshire.**—J. Byrne Leicester Warren, Lord de Tabley, a man little heard of in this country as a botanist, but one of the most painstaking followers of one branch of that science, of the passing generation, affords a good illustration of the versatility of the English gentleman, for he was at once a poet of no mean attainments, an authority on numismatics, a conservative politician, and a man one of whose principal pleasures through life was direct and interested contact with nature. A quarter of a century ago he

<sup>1</sup> Bailey, L. H., and Miller, W. *Cyclopaedia of American Horticulture, N-Q*. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1901. xv + 432 pp., 11 pls., 606 figs.

had prepared a manuscript flora of the county of Cheshire, but did not publish it. At the time of his death, in 1895, a new manuscript, except for a few late gamopetalous orders, had been fairly completed, and because of the wish of his sister, Lady Leighton, this was edited and revised by Spencer Moore and published a little over a year since.<sup>1</sup>

Few local floras are prefaced by poetry, original or copied, and one is given to looking askance at a scientific work in any part of which rhyme is encountered; and yet *The Flora of Cheshire* of De Tabley is really excellent, applying Watson's principles of distribution in a careful census of the plant growth of an interesting district, the real value of which is emphasized by the simple statement of his editor that in compiling the orders omitted from his later manuscript, though the earlier manuscript and certain memoranda found among the author's papers were used, this portion of the work is perforce left imperfect.

If with the present writer any others who handle the book desire a little deeper glimpse into the life of its author, they will find a further sketch of his life in the *Journal of Botany* for February, 1896.

T.

**Notes.** — The *Proceedings of the Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science* for 1900 contains the following botanical papers: Beal, Syllabus for a short course on grasses and other forage plants; Munson, The development of a tomato hybrid; Tracy, Individual prepotency in plants of the same breeding; Chester, The chemical functions of certain soil bacteria; Galloway, Twenty years' progress in plant pathology; Trelease, The botanic garden as an aid to agriculture; Halsted, Seven years of experiments with bush beans; Rowlee, The value of willows in retaining the banks of streams; Bolley, The course of the hyphal filaments of *Tilletia* in the body of the wheat plant; Pammel, The course in cryptogamic botany; Pammel, The weedy plants of Iowa.

In the *Botanical Magazine* of Tōkyō, for January 20, Mr. Hemsley publishes a new genus of Bixineæ, under the name *Itoa*, given it in honor of Dr. Keisuké Ito, the Nestor of Japanese botanists, who recently died at the advanced age of ninety-nine, and his grandson, Dr. Tokutaro Ito, also a well-known botanist; and a figure of the type

<sup>1</sup> Tabley, Warren de. *The Flora of Cheshire*. Edited by Spencer Moore, with a biographical notice of the author by Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1899. cxiv + 399 pp., portrait and map.